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NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

30 JUL 1969

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant to the President for National
Security Affairs

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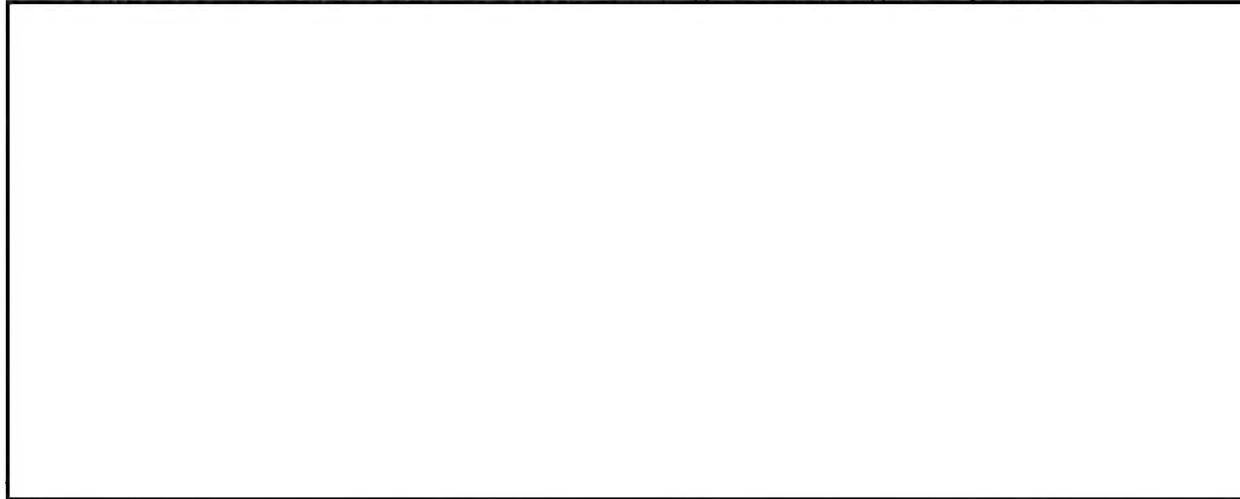
Deputy Secretary of Defense

Under Secretary of State for
Political Affairs

Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: U-2 Photographic Reconnaissance of
Muong Soui, Laos

1. The attached document is a proposal for a U-2 photographic
reconnaissance mission to obtain coverage of Muong Soui, Laos.



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3. It is recommended that approval be given for a single U-2
photographic reconnaissance mission to provide

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coverage of Muong Soui, Laos.

SIGNED

John L. McLucas

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Attachment - 1
Proposal Book

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- 12 - Special Group Officer, DDS&T (General Ross)
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U-2 RECONNAISSANCE

OF

MUONG SOUI, LAOS

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II. OPERATIONAL CONCEPT

Photographic coverage of Muong Soui, Laos, [redacted]

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[redacted] will be accomplished by an IDEALIST

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U-2R aircraft [redacted]

The mission

will be flown, weather permitting, during the period 8 through

13 August 1969. [redacted]

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[redacted] CIA pilot will be scheduled to fly the [redacted]

mission in an unmarked U-2R aircraft. [redacted]

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V. CLIMATOLOGY

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[redacted] August and September

A. GENERAL: The summer southwest monsoon is in full force [redacted] during August and the first half of September. The weather follows a regular pattern of cloudy conditions with afternoon showers occurring over parts of the area almost every day. Traces of the northeast monsoon begin to appear late in September, but the areas affected are generally north of 16° N in Laos. The onset of the northeast monsoon will normally show a decrease in cloudiness over northern Laos and North Vietnam.

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B. CLOUDINESS: Mean cloudiness [redacted] in August and early September is more than 80 per cent except for the extreme northern tip of Laos. Mission will be flown only when weather forecast indicates probability of successful accomplishment. Only one day per month would be expected to have less than 3/10 cloud cover for a given location. During the last half of September, mean cloudiness normally decreases to 60 to 70 per cent cover to the north of 16° N in Laos. The number of days with 3/10 or less cloud cover for given targets in Laos increases to two days in the south and four days in the north.

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